The People's Korea

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Pyongyang Denounces Seoul's Allegations As "Irresponsible" and "Ridiculous," Denies Involvement in KAL Jetliner Incident

The DPRK on Dec. 5 strongly charged Seoul with circulating groundless information linking the DPRK and its overseas organization Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) to the still-missing Korean Air jetliner. Seoul alledges the missing plane was exploded by a bomb planted by "north Korean agents."

Pointing out that it has not yet been made clear whether it crashed because of weather conditions or it exploded because of malfunctioning of the engine, Pyongyang said there is no elementary material evidence to clarify the cause of the incident of the south Korean air jetliner and it is impossible to ascertain who is responsible for it.

"Nevertheless, the south Korean puppets are so hasty as to link this incident with us. This is an irresponsible and rediculous act which no one in his right mind can think of," said a statement issued by a spokesman for the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

This was the first official response from the DPRK to Seoul's allegations. **(See the statement on page 4)**

It is Seoul's familiar method to produce a shocking incident and then shift its responsibility onto the DPRK or Chongryun whenever they face a serious political crisis in south Korea or when they want to isolate the DPRK internationally and exaggerate the "threat from north Korea."

When Kim Dae Jung was kidnapped from a Tokyo hotel in August 1973, south Korean agents left cigarette packets from north Korea in the room where Kim Dae Jung stayed to impress that the kidnapping was "the work of north Korean agents."

When the Kimpo Airport explosion took place, the south Korean authorities immediately tried to link the incident to the DPRK in spite of the absence of any material evidence.

More recently, they proclaimed as a kidnap operation by the DPRK the missing of a secretary of the south Korean embassy in Lebanon, who turned up later and returned to south Korea some time ago.

It is now clear that Kim Dae Jung was kidnapped by KCIA agents and it is highly likely that the Kimpo Airport explosion was their doing as well. The missing of the south Korean embassy official had nothing to do with the DPRK.

"The south Korean puppets are trying to connect the missing airliner with us. This is no more than a repetition of the same bad habit of theirs," the statement said.

(Continued on page 8, col. 3)

DJP Needed "Blockbuster" Event to Save Roh: Daily Yomiuri

The English-language Daily Yomiuri published in Japan reported on Dec. 4 that south Korea's ruling party was "running scared" with fears that its candidate, Roh Tae Woo, would be defeated in the Dec. 16 presidential election.

It quoted government sources as saying that the DJP think-tank felt a "blockbuster" announcement or event was needed to turn the tide back toward Roh.

The article written by Edward Neilan is based on private conversations with key Democratic Justice Party(DJP) members and government sources. **(See his article on page 8)**

These conversations, according to staff writers of The Daily Yomiuri, took place prior to the Korean Air jetliner incident.

This strongly implied that the incident was closely related to the presidential election campaign which was going on against Roh.

A Korea watcher told The People's Korea, "The south Korean authorities said that the missing Korean Air jetliner exploded when the whereabouts of it are still not known and no one knows exactly what happened to the plane, linking the DPRK and Chongryun to the 'explosion.' It is nothing new that the south Korean military authorities, when facing a serious political crisis, fabricate an incident to blame the DPRK and Chongryun."

"It is most likely that the Roh group that would benefit from this kind of incident most is the author of the shocking incident."

"However," he added, "that is one reason if Seoul was involved in the incident. I hear that there had been secret moves between Pyongyang and Tokyo to improve relations. Seoul did not want any dramatic moves between the two parties. In my view, the incident was the work of Seoul. Motives: to lead the presidential election campaign decisively in favor of Roh; to scuttle moves between Pyongyang and Tokyo to improve relations; to isolate the DPRK internationally and host the Olympic Games in Seoul alone."

"After all, Pyongyang stands to gain nothing from such an incident."

DPRK President Greets State Leaders

President Kim Il Sung on Nov. 27 sent a message of solidarity to Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization on the occasion of "Day of World Solidarity with the Palestinian People."

The message said that the Korean people stand firm on the side of the Palestinian people who are fighting against the imperialists and Zionists and will support and encourage their just struggle in the future, too.

The DPRK President recently sent messages of greetings to:

Lazar Mojsov, President of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and **Bosko Krunic**, President of the Presidency of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, on the occasion of the Day of the Republic, the national holiday of the Yugoslav people;

Ramiz Alia, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Albania and President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the liberation of Albania and the victory of the people's revolution;

Mathieu Kerekou, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Party of the People's Revolution of Benin, President, Head of State and Chairman of the National Executive Council of the People's Republic of Benin, on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the founding of the party and the 12th anniversary of the national day of the republic;

(Continued on page 8, col. 3)

Honecker Awarded DPRK Order

The Order of National Flag First Class of the DPRK was awarded to Mr. Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the State Council of the German Democratic Republic, on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

It was conveyed by the DPRK ambassador to the GDR on Nov. 27.

DPRK Elected Members of Three UNESCO Organs

PYONGYANG, November 28 (KCNA) – The DPRK was reportedly elected members of the Inter-governmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport, the International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Men and the Biosphere and the Inter-governmental Committee of the World Decade for Cultural Development under the UNESCO at the 24th General Conference of the UNESCO held in Paris over Oct. 20- Nov. 20.

At the 23rd General Conference, the DPRK was elected member of the Inter-governmental Council for the International Hydraulogical Programme.

The UNESCO has nine inter-governmental committees and councils.

Seminar of DPRK & USSR Social Scientists Held

The DPRK policy of independent and peaceful reunification and the U.S. Asian strategy and triangular military alliance were discussed at a seminar of Korean and Soviet social scientists on the reunification of Korea and peace and security in Asia held from Nov. 26 to 28 in Pyongyang.

Delegates of the Soviet Union and the DPRK unanimously supported Pyongyang's proposals for disarmament and security on the Korean Peninsula and in the Asian-Pacific region. They also supported the Soviet efforts and initiatives to defend peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region and worldwide nuclear disarmament.

The opening meeting of the seminar was attended by Yang Hyong Sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly and president of the Academy of Social Science, and Korean social scientists and the members of the delegation of Soviet social scientists headed by Sergei Tikhvinski, academician of the USSR Academy of Social Sciences.

Chairman Yang Hyong Sop said in his congratulatory speech that the Korean Peninsula is now a "front line" of the U.S. for the execution of its Asian-Pacific strategy. He stressed that to preserve peace in this region is closely linked with the work of easing tensions in the Asian-Pacific region and defending world peace and security.

"The Korean people support the peaceful initiatives and efforts of the Communist Party and government of the Soviet Union to ban nuclear testing, realize disarmament, prevent the militarization of outer space, eliminate all kinds of nuclear and chemical weapons and turn the Asian-Pacific region into a zone of peace and cooperation free from nuclear weapons" he said.

In his speech Sergei Tikhvinski pointed out that Washington is scheming to further reinforce its forces in the Asian-Pacific region including south Korea and Japan.

The Soviet Union, he said, highly estimates and fully supports the peaceful initiatives and proposals of the DPRK including the proposal to turn the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone and the proposal to found a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo.

It was decided at the seminar to discuss the policy of Korea's independent and peaceful reunification advanced by the DPRK, the situation on the Korean Peninsula and peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region, the U.S. Asian strategy and triangular military alliance and other issues.

Noting that it is the consistent stand of Pyongyang to reunify the country independently without alien

(Continued on page 8, col. 1)

70th Birthday of Madame Kim Jong Suk To Be Commemorated

The Korean people will commemorate the 70th anniversary of the birth of Madame Kim Jong Suk on Dec. 24, with deep emotion.

Until the last minute of her life, she devoted herself entirely to the struggle to carry out the Juche-based line and policies for the Korean revolution.

She had accomplished enduring exploits during the anti-Japanese struggle as a bodyguard, defending General Kim Il Sung, politically and ideologically and with her own body, and as an able underground political worker and a crack shot.

She was born into a patriotic and revolutionary family in Hoeryong township, Hoeryong County, North Hamgyong Province, on Dec. 24, 1917.

She spent her childhood during the period of colonial rule by the Japanese imperialists when all the Korean people were experiencing great sufferings.

To protect General Kim Il Sung at the risk of her life whether in battle or everyday life – this was the unchanged principle which Madame Kim Jong Suk unfailingly observed.

It happened at Dashahe early in the summer of 1940. The guerrillas came across the enemy by surprise. Madame Kim Jong Suk discovered the enemy soldiers closing in on General Kim Il Sung through reedy marshes.

At this critical moment, she leaped swiftly to protect him and mowed the enemy soldiers down. Thus, she ensured his safety.

She never stood by in silent disapproval of those who vilified or acted against his revolutionary thought and his revolutionary line and policies, but always fought against such moves.

It was her inviolable revolutionary principle to receive and carry out the General's order unconditionally.

In the autumn of 1939, she, with several other woman soldiers, was ordered to make 600 winter uniforms for the guerrillas within one month at the riverside of Hongqihe. They needed these for the impending large-unit circuit operations.

Heavy task as it was, she completed it successfully ten days ahead of schedule, solving all problems by her own efforts.

Her example will shine in the hearts of the Korean people forever.

Madame Kim Jong Suk in the period of construction of a new Korea.

Loyalty to Political Leader

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the birth of Madame Kim Jong Suk, The People's Korea introduces an article how she, who remained faithful to President Kim Il Sung to the end, educated her eldest son Secretary Kim Jong Il.

Following is a summary of "Modern Korea and Kim Jong Il," a book authored by Mr. Inoue Shuhachi, a Japanese professor at Rikkyo University:

A leader who succeeds and accomplishes a revolutionary cause is required to have various qualities and ability, and the most important of them is his loyalty to the political leader who pioneered the revolutionary road. This is the core of the important ideological and spiritual qualities a successor, or a leader who succeeds the revolutionary cause, is required to have. This is because no person lacking in loyalty to the leader can succeed his revolutionary cause, however excellent he is in theory and the art of guidance. Contrariwise, a leader truly loyal to the leader, can correctly succeed the revolutionary ideas and revolutionary tradition created by the leader, defend the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary party centred on the leader, and put into practice the line and policy presented by the leader, under any difficult situation.

For Secretary Kim Jong Il, his loyalty to President Kim Il Sung emanates from his revolutionary beliefs, and it is no exaggeration to say that he typically represents the loyalty of all the people of the Republic to the President, the loyalty which seems so pure and firm, and even permanent that we foreigners are unable to understand it.

The people of the Republic heartily respect and trust the President as the sun of the nation, a legendary hero and as a benevolent father. I am convinced that this is essentially different from loyalty to the king forced on the people in the feudal age, and is an expression of voluntary, pure and true loyalty.

Therefore, the faithfulness of the people of the Republic to the President is based on a spiritual tie between the President and the popular masses based on their conviction that they share their destiny with the President, and is filled with their admiration for the greatness and achievements of the President who made Korea rank in the international community of nations as a most advanced country of the world for the first time in the Korean nation's history. The people of the Republic firmly believe that the loyalty of the popular masses to the President finds its perfect crystallization and purification in Secretary Kim Jong Il's loyalty to the President.

A friend of mine in the Republic once told me the following episode: On the New Year's day of 1980, he together with several other officials visited Secretary Kim Jong Il to extend New Year greetings to him. At that time, referring to his pride in doing revolutionary work under the guidance of the President, the Secretary stressed that the President was so great a man, so great a hero, so great a leader that the word "great" was not sufficient to express the real greatness of the President. He emphasized that the President had been sent to them from heaven so that they had to be loyal to him to the last.

I was impressed by this story in many ways. It appeared to me that these words of the Secretary's carried with them his strong desire to convey correctly his respect and admiration for the President and to express his noble humanity. Particularly, I thought that his statement that "the President had been sent to them from heaven" was extremely meaningful. Because no communist believes in "heaven" (god). Why was it that he dared to use the word, I wondered.

In the Republic, people say that the Secretary's loyalty to the President reflects his mother's loyalty to the President. His mother Kim Jong Suk was a revolutionary fighter who worked for the President throughout her life, a fighter who guarded the President by his side during the period of anti-Japanese guerrilla struggle, and who defended the President's revolutionary line and policy from manoeuvres by the renegades of revolution. After the liberation of Korea on August 15, 1945, she helped the President in his activities day and night, a revolutionary who devoted herself to the President as his comrade and wife until the moment she breathed her last from illness.

Particularly, she paid special attention to nurturing loyalty to the President in the heart of the Secretary in his childhood days. The stories she told him about the President are said to have been intended to foster loyalty to the political leader consciously and purposefully, and to have been no mere kinship stories between father and son. Therefore, it is said that she told him often about the validity of the revolutionary cause of the President, inevitable victory of the cause, the glory and happiness of fighting for the cause, and also about devotion, a self-sacrificing spirit and a sense of responsibility, and other personal qualities necessary for the attainment of the cause.

Kim Jong Suk also used to tell her son that the country could prosper and the people live a happy life only when the President was in good health, and taught him that he should take good care of his father. It is said that even when she fell ill and was in a critical condition, she told her children to serve their father well, not to cause trouble to their father, to think that it was their duty to take good care of their father, and to succeed their father's will without forgetting it.

I think that it was thanks to his mother's great efforts for the education of the Secretary that he was able to raise his filial love for his father to loyalty to the President as the political leader. Here is an anecdote about his boyhood.

It was one day when Secretary Kim Jong Il was five years old. He was standing at the gate of his house, with a wooden rifle on his shoulder. Seeing him, his mother said, "What are you doing there?" Then, Jong Il replied, "I am guarding my father." At lunch time, the President returned home for a short stay. Looking at his son, the President asked his wife what was the matter with his son. Hearing from his wife what his son was doing, the President said, "Is that so! He is guarding me," and then turned his eyes to his son with a look of trust in him on his face.

Next, here are excerpts from a letter the Secretary wrote when he was 12.

"I want to make the most important reminder to you father, which is that you are not just an individual but the leader of the entire Korean people...

"You should be healthy, guard yourself against the enemy planes always taking care of yourself, and this means happiness to the entire Korean people and to us. I wish you from afar to take much care of your health. June 1, 1953 Kim Jong Il."

This is a letter the young Kim Jong Il wrote to his father, the Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, when he had to live separately from his father temporarily during the Korean War.

As will be clear from this letter, it appears that from his boyhood days, the Secretary always carried in his heart a heroic figure of his father, as the political leader who bore the destiny of the fatherland and the nation on his shoulders. It also appears that this feeling of the young Jong Il to the President developed into his loyalty to the President as he grew up amidst the strong currents of the Korean revolution.

The Secretary's loyalty to the President is expressed in the fact that he looks up to the President for ever as the leader and also in his efforts to raise the prestige of the President and defend him. The Secretary always pays deep attention to this matter.

◀ Madame Kim Jong Suk, with President Kim Il Sung and Secretary Kim Jong Il as a young boy.

▼ Madame Kim Jong Suk looking after recruits in the period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

To the Memory of Comrade Kim Jong Suk (1)

By Kim Myong Hwa

When I think about the happy life I am enjoying now in this glorious era of Chollima, when wonders are wrought every passing day, I see the faces of many comrades who were with me through thick and thin in the anti-Japanese guerrillas struggle. What memories of those days come back to me!

Among my comrades, Comrade Kim Jong Suk is especially never-to-be-forgotten.

I met her for the first time at a guerrilla base in Wangyukou, Yenchi county, where I was leading the life of a guerrilla.

I lived with her from then on, so I came to know the story of her past life as well as her noble character.

She lost her parents when she was only a child and suffered great hardships, enduring hunger and cold. Her father was a farm labourer.

Though a mere slip of a girl, she learned to set her teeth and endure.

How she hated the social system of injustice! Unerringly she knew who her class enemy was.

When she joined the Children's Corps, the revolutionary influence of which introduced her to organizational life, she was fully awakened.

She learned to go many miles alone at night without fear, carrying out liaison missions for the revolutionary organization or slipping into the compounds of the Manchurian Army barracks to paste up leaflets.

As the enemies grew more barbaric, committing atrocities, and the "punitive forces" burnt down her home, she came to the guerrilla base in Wangyukou with her younger brother.

From the very first, these guerrilla fighters and people in the base loved the two orphans as their real children and looked after them with deep regard.

One day in September 1933 there was a surprise attack on the base by the "punitive forces."

The barbarians set fire to every house and mercilessly shot down innocent children and the aged who were climbing the mountain to seek a safe place. Comrade Kim Jong Suk lost her one and only brother that day, to add to her misfortune.

She cried as she held the body of her brother to her heart, while he breathed his last breath, holding in his little hands the soil he had scratched up in his pain. She cursed the enemy with irreconcilable hatred, and vowed vengeance. Again and again she vowed to fight and avenge her brother with her life.

As a member of the Communist Youth League, Comrade Kim Jong Suk guided the work of the Children's Corps in Peitung, of Wangyukou. Food and clothing were in short supply and the enemy attacked with its "punitive force" again and again. But whatever the difficulties, she looked after her children with utmost care, raising them as dependable fighters. At the same time, she never for a moment forgot her revolutionary duty to encourage, rally and mobilize the people in the base, as well as to assist the guerrilla units.

She was modest, polite and well-behaved in all circumstances.

So everyone in the base came to love her, young and old alike, who called her "the leader of our branch" or "our Jong Suk."

Her fine womanly character was even more fully displayed in her guerrilla life, where she became a model for other women guerrillas.

Comrade Jong Suk joined the guerrilla army in 1935 in Chechangtzu, where she worked with me as a cook.

Working with Comrade Kim Jong Suk I was filled with admiration for her warm love for our revolutionary comrades.

Our life in Chechangtzu at that time was indescribably difficult. Things were tough for us cooks, too, responsible to see that the guerrillas got good meals. At times we were extremely exhausted after missing several meals, but we had to climb up the mountain every day and peel the inner skin of pine trees to use for meals for the fighters. But when supplies ran out on the flat summit we had to go along steep ridges which were hardly accessible. Totally exhausted, we would drop down at the foot of a pine tree with our arms round its trunk and fall fast asleep, sickle in hand.

One day we got half a bowl of flour quite by chance. Comrade Jong Suk and I agreed to prepare a special meal for our comrades-in-arms.

We pounded the soft inner part of pine barks until it was like cotton and mixed it with the flour, which we boiled and made into jelly-like cakes. Then we turned our knapsacks inside out to find a few beans: we baked and ground the beans into powder and coated the cakes.

Now that our "special meal" was ready, we waited for supper time.

When mealtime came, we served the cakes to our comrades. They were delighted and asked where such nice cakes came from.

They ate them with relish, saying that the cakes tasted far better than honeyed rice cakes.

Leaning against the kitchen door, Comrade Jong Suk watched them eat with a happy smile on her face.

When the meal was nearly over, Comrade Jong Suk hurried into the kitchen and came out with some more cakes and divided them among the men.

The guerrillas would not take them but urged us to eat them, but Comrade Jong Suk pressed the cakes on them, saying: "We have had enough. These are extras."

So we brought all the cakes out and distributed them among the guerrillas who then took them, believing that we had had our meal.

When we went to bed that night, I asked her if she was hungry.

She answered quietly:

'Looking at the happy faces of the comrades, I clean forgot that I was hungry. Do you think one feels satiated only when one eats? I can make our comrades so happy, I think I can go without meals... Mother Myong Hwa, I am very happy tonight!"

Her spirit that found real happiness and joy in the service of her comrades moved me deeply. I pressed her to my breast.

So warm was her love that she dedicated everything she had to our comrades and would unhesitatingly risk her life for their sake.

Her love for her comrades was based entirely on principle.

She knew how to educate others by setting an example herself, a character that earned her the deepest love and solicitude of her comrades-in-arms.

(To be continued)

—Statement of KCNA Spokesman—

Incident Must Be Correctly Made Clear in Any Case

PYONGYANG December 5 (KCNA) — A spokesman for the Korean Central News Agency today issued a statement denouncing the south Korean puppets for carrying on a wholesale smear campaign against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, connecting the missing of a south Korean air passenger jet with it.

Follows the full text of the statement: *(Subtitles are ours: Ed.)*

Anti-DPRK Smear Campaign in A Far-fetched Way

According to a report, a south Korean airliner which was bound for Seoul from Baghdad, Iraq, was found missing near the Thailand-Burma border on Nov. 29.

In this connection the south Korean puppets are these days carrying on a wholesale anti-DPRK smear campaign while connecting this incident with the DPRK in a far-fetched way.

At first, they talked about the north's involvement in it through the mobilization of the press immediately after the incident was reported. But high-ranking authorities directly came out at last in such a reckless smear campaign, arbitrarily taking issue with the DPRK.

The traitor Chun Doo Hwan on Dec. 2 hurriedly called an "extraordinary cabinet meeting" and made quite a fuss as if "hands of the north" were stretched behind this incident. And the "Democratic Justice Party" in a "statement" of its spokesman addressed itself to such a rude act as arbitrarily concluding that the incident "boils down to a brutal act of a henchmen under the influence of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan on the secret orders of the north."

Even Roh Tae Woo, a "presidential candidate of the Democratic Justice Party," lost no time in using the incident of the passenger jet for his "campaign" tour, publicly blaring that "there is a very likely suspicion that it is a terrorist bomb explosion committed on the orders of the north."

Plane Missing, Nothing to Do with DPRK

As for the passenger plane reported missing, it has not yet been made clear whether it crashed because of weather conditions or it exploded because of malfunctioning of the engine.

Although the south Korean "investigation group" dispatched to the spot as soon as the incident was reported has engaged in the search operation in Burma after failing in investigation in Thailand, not knowing even the place where the plane was lost, no discovery has been made up either of the spot where the plane crashed or of the remains of the passenger jet.

As for a Japanese couple who has been presumed to be linked with the incident, the man had reportedly destroyed himself by poison already in Bahrain and the woman is in a state of unconsciousness.

These facts clearly show that there is no elementary material evidence to clarify the cause of the incident of the south Korean air jetliner and it is, therefore, impossible to ascertain who is responsible for it.

Nevertheless, the south Korean puppets are so hasty as to link this incident with us. This is an irresponsible and ridiculous act which no one in his right mind can think of.

We can never overlook such anti-national acts of the south Korean puppets as conducting an anti-DPRK smear campaign groundlessly carping on us.

The south Korean passenger plane missing has nothing to do with us.

How can it be linked with us on earth that the south Korean passenger plane with no passenger related to us missed not in our territorial air?

As for the ill-fated passenger plane, it is an outdated plane which once unexpectively landed for the malfunctioning of its engine and landed with retractable landing gears out of order two times, as the puppets admitted themselves.

It is not accidental that as the crash was reported, all bereft families of the passengers lodged a strong protest with the puppet authorities against putting in commission the plane unit for international air service.

This shows that there is the possibility of causing an accident due to defective engine of the plane.

No Reason to Argue "Explosion"

On the day of the incident inhabitants in the Thai-Burmese borderline reported that they saw a passenger plane supposed to be ill-fated airliner was flying over the large swath of levelled trees in Burma with its left wing in flames and the publication of the south Korean "investigation group" on the spot said that after air reconnaissance it discovered the trace of the passing of the ill-fated plane over the swath of Burma. This makes this possibility strong and tells that there is no reason to argue that the airliner exploded in the air.

If the south Korean puppets truly want to fully clarify the truth about this incident, they should not carp us and shift the responsibility on to us, first, but find the cause on their side and have sincere attitude of asking their own responsibility.

But the puppets linked our republic and Chongryun with the incident in a far-fetched manner, not doing things to be done by themselves and discerning the developments, but categorically advertising "terrorist explosion" of the airliner. It is a futile act that convinces no one.

"Miyamoto", Closely Linked with Seoul

As for Japanese man and woman spotted by south Korean puppets as "criminals", there is neither condition nor pretext to link them with us.

It is entirely self-evident that their nationality is Japanese and they carry Japanese passports and have lived in Japan and, therefore, have no connection with us.

Furthermore, it is identified that the Japanese man is not the suspected "Miyamoto" who has been pursued as a man linking with us, as clarified by the Japanese authorities concerned. He is known to be an unidentified person closely linked with south Korea, not with the DPRK.

And it has been confirmed that the Japanese woman does not know Korean but speaks Japanese and also travelled south Korea for gem smuggling.

It has not yet been clarified that for what purposes this Japanese couple had boarded the south Korean passenger plane and disembarked it.

The south Korean puppets, however, recklessly brand them as "criminals" linked with us. How can they be linked with us?

The Japanese government authorities in a press conference have officially denied the argument about the linkage with us, saying that there is no evidence proving that the DPRK was involved in the south Korean passenger jetliner case.

Repetition of Their Evil Habit

All facts clearly prove that how silly and far-fetched argument are the words of the south Korean puppets who are linking with us the missing airliner.

Each time when any case occurred, the south Korean puppets kicked up an anti-communist confrontation racket, linking it with us. It is their evil habit to do so.

The south Korean habitual liars advertised as our deed the Kim Dae Jung kidnap case which they had committed themselves in Tokyo and had connected with us the case of the August 15 shooting of the former dictator carried out by Mun Se Gwang, a Korean in Japan on their order.

They also linked with us the explosion at the Kimpo Airport which they committed themselves and proclaimed as our kidnap operation the missing of secretary of the south Korean embassy in Lebanon who returned to south Korea some time ago.

The south Korean puppets are trying to connect the missing airliner with us. This is no more than a repetition of the same bad habit of theirs.

We decisively denounce as the reckless moves of those bereft of reason the acts of the south Korean ruling quarters habitually carping on us and kicking up hysteric anti-communist racket each time a case takes place inside south Korea and incidents occur outside it.

The south Korean puppets launched the anti-communist confrontation racket, groundlessly provoking the DPRK, from the outset of this incident. Now this gives the world people much doubt.

Dictators Face Awkward Position In Election Campaign

No sooner had this incident broke out than the south Korean puppets embarked upon a farce of using the incident for their political plot to "win the presidential elections," as if they waited for it.

As a matter of fact, the south Korean military dictators find themselves in an awkward position in the election campaign, assailed by the broad masses of the people for all sorts of their anti-national criminal acts including the December 12 army purge coup and the Kwangju incident.

The military dictators who, in their last fateful days, saw military administration coming to an end, felt the need to create some conditions under which they might turn the situation in their favor by causing a shocking incident and extricate themselves from the crisis.

The puppets have so far saved themselves from the repeated political crises by so-called "methods of shocking cure." People have every reason to think that the puppets might invent a new dramatic, shocking incident with the aim of delivering themselves from the blind alley in which they find themselves today

Though five days have passed since the incident, "investigation" of the accident has been delayed the cause of it unclarified and when a Japanese couple suspected of being "offenders" arrived in Bahrain the side of the south Korean puppet embassy met them before the confirmation of their identities by the side of the Japanese embassy. Such acts of the south Korean puppets give us much doubts.

Robber Has Always Guilty Conscience

It is natural that the south Korean opposition parties and people of broad strata should pay due attention to the incident of the passenger jet and lift up louder voices of protest against ill-boding attempt of the military dictatorial forces to use the incident for an insidious purpose in the elections.

The south Korean puppets are, to be sure, lost to reason.

The robber has always a guilty conscience.

Those who feel guilty talk nonsense, make no scruple of anything and invent every all conceivable trick when they are lost to reason driven out of their wit's end.

As the south Korean authorities started intrigue, their intrigue will continue and the situation may develop to an unexpected, dangerous phase.

The puppets, requesting local authorities to send "finger prints of the Japanese man and woman, clamour as if they were an important clue to the "solution of the incident." This can be explained as a new preparation for the intrigue.

How Can We Damage S. Korean Workers?

The incident must be correctly made clear in any case.

The south Korean puppets must not use the passenger plane incident for a sinister political purpose and discontinue at once the dastardly act of laying confusion to the quick and correct solution of the incident.

We strongly demand that the south Korean puppets apologize for their insidious attempt to impair the international authority of our Republic, admit their responsibility for having rendered the situation on the Korean Peninsula extremely strained and immediately stop their anti-communist smear campaign.

The Japanese authorities, the party responsible for the fair probe into the incident, should refrain from dancing to the tune of the south Korean puppets, beyond any political interests or prejudice.

We will watch the attitude of the south Korean rulers and the Japanese authorities.

We are brothers and sisters always siding with the south Korean people.

How can it be imagined that we do damage to the south Korean workers who were on board the passenger plane?

We express the expectation that the south Korean people will correctly distinguish right from wrong concerning the passenger airplane incident, approach the smear campaign of the military dictators with vigilance and check and frustrate the plot of the fascist clique to extend the military government.

DJP's "Fraud Election Guideline" Calls On Gov't Employees To "Enlighten" Voters

It has been disclosed that the Chun-Roh regime has drawn up a "guideline" for election fraud, and this has become another focal issue in south Korea.

Amid the ruling Democratic Justice Party's corrupt practices including bribery and utilization of government bodies, south Korean papers report that the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy has exposed the existence of an "election fraud guideline" called the "fundamental tactics for winning a substantial majority of votes," which was circulated to government organizations.

The guideline, the size of a usual leaflet, is subtitled "Fulfillment of the responsibilities by local government officials and organizations to work with selfless devotion to win the elections."

The main contents of the guideline as reported by south Korean dailies are as follows: 1) The head of each county should form a 19-man unit as a separate outfit and carry out a campaign to "enlighten" the inhabitants who support the opposition party; 2) The deputy head of each county should place under his control the affiliated organizations and government organizations to make the section, office and division chiefs garner 1,000 votes each; 3) The heads of cities and villages should collect 2,000 votes each; 4) Leaders of the "Semaul Movement" (new village movement) should draw a line between the ruling and opposition supporters and strive to win votes from the former, and so on.

South Korean students, supporting Christian groups' call for fairplay in December's presidential elections, brave drizzling rain to urge people to keep their eyes open for any attempt by the ruling camp to rig the poll. Pictures taken on Nov. 27 in the southern island of Cheju. (Reuter)

The opposition camp accuses the ruling party, claiming that the DJP is making frantic efforts to collect votes by distributing money and souvenirs by utilizing central and local government employees.

"If people apply for membership in the DJP, they will be paid tens of thousands of won, and eligible voters have been given one or more souvenirs each since the Chusok holiday," the opposition camp said.

"The military authorities have recently allocated to the army officers the target numbers of votes they should win in their units in support of the ruling party," they added.

100 Billion Won Used for Election Fraud

The sums of 200,000 won, 100,000 won and 70,000 won were paid on Nov. 10 respectively to south Korea's 3,300 county heads, 13,000 polling district chiefs and 70,000 chiefs of other administrative units as "campaign funds" to buy votes, according to the December issue of south Korea's monthly "Wolgan Chosun."

The magazine said that the ruling DJP also distributed a total of 100 billion won to its 92 regional party offices across south Korea, namely, 15 billion won to be used per day.

More than 40 billion won were used on four occasions by that time, the Wolgan Chosun said, but is believed that funds many times the above-mentioned sum have been secretly used through the ruling party's private organizations such as regional councils.

For instance, the Roh Tae Woo camp paid 3,000 won each to those who attended his stumping tour rallies together with 2,000 won paid as "transportation fee," the Wolgan Chosun said.

These corrupt election campaigns by the ruling party are arousing widerspread indignation among the south Korean people.

Harsh Demos Erupt In 26 Cities

In protest against the authorities' attempt to foil a mass rally to demand a fact-finding survey over the Kwangju and Dec. 12 incidents, south Korean people staged strong demonstrations on Nov. 28 in 26 cities across south Korea including Seoul, Kwangju, Chongju and Inchon.

The demonstrations erupted when massive police units were mobilized to obstruct the pan-national rallies sponsored by the National Coalition for Democracy due to be held that day.

In Seoul more than 5,000 police were mobilized in the crackdown.

Hundreds of angry citizens who were hampered to join the rally held a demonstration, chanting "Punish Roh Tae Woo, human butcher!"

They reportedly distributed leaflets which demand punishment of Roh Tae Woo for his dired involvement in the Kwangju massacre eight years ago.

In other provincial capitals including Chonju, Chongju, angry people seized the ruling DJP offices.

In Chongju, two DJP local offices were burnt.

In Inchon, people threw tear gas canisters at Roh Tae Woo during his stumping speech there.

Meanwhile, more than 1,500 students in Seoul held a rally on Nov. 27 to demand the abolition of Chun Doo Hwan's military rule.

Some 10 students wrote "Put an end to military rule" with their blood, burning Uncle Sam and Roh Tae Woo in effigies.

Roh Again Greeted by Rocks, Wooden Sticks and Petrol Bombs in Kwangju

The ruling Democratic Justice Party presidential candidate Roh Tae Woo was compelled to cut short his campaign speech in Kwangju on Nov. 30 as hundreds of anti-Roh protesters hurled stones, wooden sticks and petrol bombs at him.

Roh faced strong protesters upon his arrival on a south truck at the Kwangju Railway Station plaza at about 2:30 p.m. as a large number of youths shouted "Kim Dae Jung, Kim Dae Jung" and tried to block the procession.

When Roh began his address, various missiles flew toward the podium.

Roh's bodyguards protected the presidential nominee with transparent plastic shields and wooden signs bearing a caricature portrait of Roh.

The numerous protesters burned heaps of campaign literature and placards for Roh.

He was unable to continue his speech for more than 10 minutes as the protesters became ever more violent.

The protesters, hurling rocks, wooden sticks and petrol bombs, rushed ahead to the podium in an attempt to disrupt the speech, harshly confronting Roh's bodyguards.

The disturbance heated up when Roh showed up at the podium. Some 1,000 people tried to occupy the podium with repeated shouts of Kim Dae Jung.

Eggs hurled by protesters hit a plastic board on Nov. 29 as DJP president Roh Tae Woo arrive at his campaign rally site outside the train station in the southwestern city of Kwangju, surrounded by his bodyguards. Tens of thousands of Kwangju people chanting the name of their local hero, Kim Dae Jung, disrupted Roh's stumping speech. (Reuter)

Chun-Roh Group Tries To Trick People: Ex-Commander of Special Combat Troops

"The Dec. 12 incident was the military junior's coup to overpower senior officers," said the then commander of the army special combat troops on Nov. 24.

It was the second time that a high ranking military officer at that time testified that it was virtually a coup d'etat, since Chong Sung Hwa, then commander of martial law troops unveiled the truth of the Dec. 12 incident in mid-November.

Chong and Kim Jin Gi, then military police commander at a press conference in Seoul said, "The Dec. 12 incident was an attempt of junior officers to overpower their senior officers . . . but we restrained ourselves from mobilizing a crackdown force from the idea that we should prevent a bloody conflict inside the military."

They said that the truth of the Dec. 12 incident is being distorted or ignored by those responsible for the incident.

"We came to reveal the truth from the thinking that if we idle with folded arms any more as the commanders involved in the incident, it would mean that we join in the act of betraying and telling a lie to the people," they said.

"It was an inauspicious incident which turned upside down the military commanding system from its roots. The reason why many generals joined that side (Chun-Roh group) means that they had been well prepared for the event. Those responsible for the incident have ceaselessly tried to justify it, but can not do so at all," they added.

They maintained that they were compelled to take off the military uniforms by shear force, and said, "They (the Chun-Roh group) are trying to trick people, albeit they know all the fact."

"How can we entrust the nation to an dishonest man?" they asked to reporters.

A Japanese Writer Visits the DPRK

A Reunion (2)

(Continued from previous issue)

It had grown light outside of the train. We could see cattle at the bank along the railway line feeding and the figure of farmers became conspicuous. I saw students going to school and farmers riding on bicycles for a long time after we left Pyongyang.

I could also see a medium build dog running on the grass. Someone said "The soil of the ploughed fields looked very rich." All was hushed on the farms in the morning. I kept looking out of the window, my head filled with the "Nakayama-san" incident.

After coming back to Pyongyang, I asked Mr. Pak and Mr. and Mrs. Nakayama about the man who told me his name was Nakayama. To my surprise, the man was a younger brother of Mr. Nakayama and the man and woman was going to meet him for 40 years. It seemed that both the man and woman and their brother had kept in touch with each other by corresponding.

Later I heard that their brother visited them at the hotel in Pyongyang and they talked to their hearts' content for two days. I thought the couple would pretend to be ill in order to meet their brother in Pyongyang.

The rather small Mr. and Mrs. Nakayama, who looked to be on the wrong side of sixty, came to me in the dining room and said "I thank you very much for your trouble this time," with a deep bow. Their figure of bowing to me resembled their brother who had also bowed to me saying "It's me," at the station.

Then I stood up and swung my arms, saying "Not at all." Mr. Nakayama, however, went on pleasantly: "My brother now works at a research institute of a university and looked very happy. A weight is off my mind now. Thank you very much."

I did not ask the details out of deference of them with whom I came to visit the DPRK by chance as members of the same tour party. So even now, I don't know whether Mr. Nakayama is Korean or whether his brother is Japanese. What made me happy and impressived is the fact that the DPRK government and its party guarantee its people's living enough to make brothers who have met after 40 years' separation, happy and satisfied.

Two tourists looking like a couple who have gone through entrance formalities at the Pyongyang Ariport, said "Let's take a rest," relaxing in a coach with a relieved sigh. It didn't take so much time to find Mr. and Mrs. Nakayama for them. I just smiled at them and they smiled back.

It is already more than one month since I came back to Japan. Even now I can feel a fond memory of my tour to the DPRK. Written on the yellow-colored pamphlet of the tour company is "The First Commemoration Tour of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Beijing-Pyongyang-Kaesong-Panmunjom-Nampo Itinerary, Oct. 5 to Oct. 13, 1987" and the list, on its back I wrote "He is among us" and "We will go to Kaesong."

Before my departure, I was often asked by my neighbors—"What makes you visit north Korea now?" Every time, I answered "I will visit the DPRK to see the homeland of a boy laborer, Li, who worked with me at the same factory in Japan nearly half a century ago."

In front of the building where the truce agreement was signed

At that time, I knew only his family name "Li" and later we became separated from each other. Though I don't know his whereabouts, even now his name causes his face to appear before my eyes. He was much kinder to poor me than any other Japanese people.

"As he used to talk about the River Amnok he must be from north Korea." My tour with such rememberance in my mind was very nice and impressive. But at the same time, the tour deeply impressed on me the necessity of study about Korea as well as the lack of my knowledge and information on Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

(Concluded)

The DPRK has recently begun accepting Japanese tourists in line with its foreign policy and tours from Japan are now available. The first tour group has been to the DPRK in October.

Tourists visiting the DPRK from Japan have to fly to Pyongyang via Beijing as there are no diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The Chugai Tourist Company, the general tour agent for the DPRK's Internationl Tour Bureau in Tokyo, is accepting applications by tourists in association with several Japanese travel agents.

Sports and Culture

Table Tennis

● The DPRK players finished the winner in the women's team event and the third place in the men's team event at the Budapest International Table Tennis Championships held in Hungary over Nov. 12-15.

Kim Song Hui took the runner-up in the men's individual events.

● The DPRK paddlers finished the winners, defeating the south Korean opponents in the men's and women's team events at the 3rd Asian Junior Table Tennis Championships which was held recently in Indonesia.

In the finals Nov. 17 the boys overwhelmed the south Korean rival team 5-1 and the girls upset the south Korean opponents 3-1.

● The DPRK players gave a good account of themselves at the International Table Tennis Tournament for "Sovetskaya Kultura" Cup which was held recently in the Soviet Union.

In the individual events the DPRK boys and girls placed as follows:

In the men's single	
Kim Song Hui	First
Chu Jong Chol	Second
In the women's single	
Kim Yong Hui	Third
In the men's double	
Chu Jong Chol	
Kim Song Hui	Third
In the mixed double	
Chu Jong Chol	
Kim Yong Hui	First
Kim Song Hui	
An Hui Suk	Second

Internal Track and Field Competitions

National track and field competitions were held in Pyongyang over Nov. 21-25.

The competitions were participated in by players of central and provincial sports teams and workers, farmers, office employees and students selected from elimination contests, over 1,400 in all.

The competitions, divided into professional and ordinary groups, took place in over 40 detailed events of boys and girls.

Li Il Chang of the Amnokgang Sports Team established a new national record in man's high jump and Yu Song Hui of the April 25 Sports Team in girl's 10,000 metre run.

Int'l Prize Winners' Concert Held in DPRK

A concert of the DPRK prize winners at the international singers contests was held on Nov. 19 in the DPRK.

The concert was performed by Cho Hye Gyong and Cho Chong Mi who carried off prizes at the 23rd Viotti International Singers Contest held in Vercelli, Italy, and at the 33rd Toulouse International Singing Contest held in France.

Korean and foreign songs were put on stage of the concert.

The performers sang skillfully arias from foreign operas including "Carmen" in a beautiful and soft tone and with rich voice and delicate feelings.

GDR Art Troupe Performs in DPRK

The Art Toupe of the Theatre of the "Young Guard Detachment" in Halle City, the GDR, gave performances several times recently in Pyongyang and Nampo, the West coast post city of the DPRK.

In each number the performers presented the works with refined technical acting, artistic skill and stage decor of peculiar styles to leave deep impressions on the audience.

State Pyongyang Circus Gives 332 Performances in Switzerland

The Korean State Pyongyang Circus on a visit to Switzerland has given 332 performances in more than 50 cities including Berne, Geneva and Lausanne till Nov. 10 since it raised the curtain in Zurich on Mar. 21.

The President of the Swiss Confederation, political and social figures of Switzerland and citizens of all walks of life, 1,162,000 in all, appreciated the performance in this period.

The theatres where performances were given were overcrowded with spectators who came to see the Juche-oriented acrobatic art overflowing with wisdom, talent and national emotion of the Korean people.

The performances were applauded by the spectators for its high ideological and artistic plane and wonderful skill.

After seeing the performance, the President of the Swiss Confederation said that the performance of Korean actors and actresses is not only delighting the Swiss people but also contributing to deepening understanding between the peoples of the two countries and strengthening cooperation in cultural field.

The paper La Swiss in an article titled "Pyongyang Circus of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea" said that the State Pyongyang Circus which has developed under the meticulous leadership of President Kim Il Sung and Secretary Kim Jong Il is recognized as the best acrobatic organization in the world.

Pyongyang State Circus gains public favor at home and abroad.

Bulgarian Concert Given in DPRK

A Bulgarian concert was given on

(Continued on page 7)

Day of World-wide Solidarity With Palestinian People Marked in Pyongyang

A meeting was held in Pyongyang on Nov. 24 to mark the "Day of world-wide solidarity with the Palestinian people."

The meeting was addressed by Li Mong Ho, chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and chairman of the Korean Committee for Solidarity with the World People.

He said the 18th Meeting of the Palestine National Council which was held with success this year marked an important turning-point in decisively smashing the manoeuvres of the U.S. and the Israeli invaders and advancing the Palestinian revolution.

Stating that for its validity the Palestinian people's cause of justice is enjoying full support and encouragement of the world people who value independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, he expressed firm solidarity for their struggle to restore their legitimate national rights.

If the Palestinian issue is to be solved smoothly, an immediate end should be put to the aggressive moves of the U.S. and the Zionists, and the Israeli invaders should withdraw from the Arab land they are occupying illegally, he declared.

Moustapha Saphariny, chief of the PLO mission in Pyongyang, in his speech pointed to the support and encouragement extended to the fighting Palestinian people by the party, government and people of the DPRK under the great guidance of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the dear leader Comrade Kim Jong Il. He expressed deep thanks and gratitude for this to the Juche-guided great Korean people who are united into one, on behalf of the PLO and people led by Comrade Yasser Arafat, a fighter.

He supported all the peace proposals of the Korean people.

A solidarity letter to Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO and Commander-in-Chief of the Palestinian Revolutionary Armed Forces, was adopted at the meeting.

In Tokyo

A reception to mark the United Nations International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (Nov. 29) was held on the evening of Nov. 30 at the Hotel Kayu-Kaikan in Tokyo.

The party was cosponsored by the Parliamentarians' League for Japan-Palestine Friendship, the Dietmen's League for Japan-Arab Friendship, the Council of the Arab Ambassadors and Heads of Missions accredited to Japan.

The party was attended by Japanese dietmen, diplomats from Arab states and other personages concerned.

The party heard guest speeches including the representative of the UN Information Center in Tokyo.

Dr. Abdel Munem, PLO representative in Japan, made a speech.

He said: Five months ago we marked the anniversary of the June Aggression and the occupation of the whole land of Palestine land. The bullets of the Islaeli occupiers mowed down the sons of Palestinian people. They on that occasion declared, as they have always done, their rejection of occupation and settlement by the Israelites and their staunch determination to exercise their legitimate right to achieve self-determination and establish an independent Palestinian state on the territory of their homeland under the leadership of the PLO.

He stressed that peace in Palestine is an indivisible part of international peace and that non-realization of peace in Palestine threatens the peace and security of the world.

The UN International Day of Solidarity with the Palestine People was designated by the United Nations General Assembly on Dec. 2, 1977 and it has since been observed throughout the world.

Asian Human Rights Forum Held in Japan

Del. of Korean Democratic Lawyers Assn. Here Attends Forum

The opening session of the Asian Human Rights Forum held in Kobe on Nov. 28, when Chairperson Doi Takako of the Japan Socialist Party made a keynote report.

The Asian Human Rights Forum was held on Nov. 28 and 29 at the International Hall in Kobe, Japan, sponsored by the Japan Socialist Party.

The symposium aimed to discuss the condition of violation of the human rights of Asian peoples by Japan and discrimination in Japan and work out measures to eliminate human rights violation.

As many as 700 participants took part in the symposium. A delegation of the Korean Democratic Lawyers' Association in Japan headed by Kim Gyu Sung was invited to the forum together with delegations from south Korea, the Philippines, Indonesia, etc.

The two-day forum divided into four working sessions according to topics such as "Political suppression and human rights," "Minorities and human rights," "Japanese economic cooperation and human rights" and "Women and human rights."

The opening session heard a keynote speech titled "Toward people's Asia for peace, freedom and development" made by Chairperson Doi Takako of the Japan Socialist Party.

Kim Gyu Sung, head of the Korean Democratic Lawyers' Association in Japan participated in the session of "Japanese economic cooperation and human rights."

He referred to the problems of Japanese economic cooperation with south Korea after the conclusion of the "ROK-Japan treaty" and pointed out as followings:

1) Japan's economic cooperation with south Korea aims at retaining south Korea as within anti-communist block and maintaining it as a military base;

2) It has not contributed to the improvement of the living of the people; and

3) It has promoted south Korea-Japan's dirty connection in the fields of politics, economy and military affairs.

The forum closed with a pledge to take a "first step" toward eliminating suppression and poverty in Asia in 1988, the 40th anniversary of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Korean Students Here Win Prizes at Essay Contest

Kim Hyang Suk (left) and other Korean students who won prizes at the essay contest organized by the Japan Standard Education Institute.

Kim Hyang Suk, sixth grader of the Kyoto No. 3 Korean Elementary School, won the second prize at the awarding ceremony of the 11th Japan Standard Education Prize held at the Keio Plaza Hotel in Tokyo on Nov. 23.

She placed second in the section of fifth to sixth graders of elementary schools in the essay contest on the "Aozora Library," a collection of juvenile stories.

Consolation prizes were also awarded each to Li Kye Sun, a sixth grader, Cho Hak Un, a third grader, and Choe Sang Mi, a first grader of the same school.

The Japan Standard Education Institute, a private institute, has organized an essay contest every year since 1977 and about 150,000 entries are submitted every year.

The contest is well known among Japanese education circles.

This was the first time that Korean schools in Japan participated in the contest and won prizes. Four out of nine entrants from Korean schools were awarded prizes.

A total of 147,487 entries were made from all parts of Japan. Among them 46,953 were entered in the section of essays on the "Aozora Library," a collection of juvenile stories.

Judges numbered 100, headed by Prof. Nakauchi Toshio of Hitotsubashi University. It took three months for them to examine all the entries.

Kim Hyang Suk's work has praised for her deep understanding of the content of the book and for her reflection on her own life. Kim Hyang Suk's parents who were present at the awarding ceremony said:

"We are glad that our child was awarded the prize. However, more than anything else, we are happy that her work exhibited the level of our national education in Japan."

There are 152 Korean schools—from kindergartens to a university—throughout Japan, where Korean students learn their mother tongue, Korean history and geography as well as other general subjects.

(Continued from page 6)

Nov. 25 at the Ponhwa Art Theatre.

Kim Yong Won, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea, other officials concerned and working people and artistes in the city appreciated the concert.

Also present on invitation were Ivan Parov, charge d' affaires ad interim, and officials, of the Bulgarian embassy in Pyongyang, the members of the delegation of the Bulgarian Composers Union and other Bulgarian guests staying in the DPRK.

Instrumentalists and soloists of the state symphony orchestra who performed at the concert excellently represented Veselin Stoyanov's rhapsody, woman soprano solo "Balkan, My Homeland" and other Bulgarian music works reflecting the noble spiritual world, ardent love for the country and national customs of the Bulgarian people with soft and light music rhythm and clear and rich volume of voice.

Fear of Election Loss Hits Ruling Party

The following article written by Edward Neilan appeared in the Dec. 4 issue of The Daily Yomiuri published by The Yomiuri Shimbun, one of the three major dailies published in Japan.

* * *

SEOUL–With less than two weeks remaining in South Korea's presidential election campaign, the ruling party is "running scared" and fears its candidate Roh Tae Woo will be defeated.

That assessment emerges after private conversations with key Democratic Justice Party members and government sources plus the impact of swelling turnouts for the rallies of oppositionists Kim Dae Jung and Kim Young Sam.

One result is the DJP strategists are working overtime to come up with "another June 29 declaration" which they feel is needed to boost the sagging presidential campaign of their candidate Roh.

Confirming that the DJP is "running scared" as a result of recent surges by the two Kims, sources said the DJP brain trust feels it needs a "blockbuster" announcement or event to turn the tide back toward Roh.

The June 29 declaration was Roh's statement of democratization proposals, incorporating most of the opposition's demands, which he handed to President Chun Doo Hwan for approval. The president approved Roh's proposals two days later.

The move by Roh seized back for the ruling party the initiative it had lost to oppositionists in a series of violent summer street demonstrations.

But now the DJP has lost the momentum it once held and stands in danger of losing what is widely regarded as a close horse race among Roh and the two Kims for the Dec. 16 election.

The only two moves that might win applause and votes–agreeing to a neutral Cabinet for the election period and reducing the mandatory draft service for young people–are considered to be too risky and possibly counter-productive.

The present thinking is for Roh to make a statement further distancing himself from past government "mistakes" but without seriously indicting his close friend Chun.

The election eve "talk to the nation" would stress Roh's sincerity and dedication to democracy as well as his belief that he is better qualified as an administrator than his opponents.

He would gently chide the government for not yet following through on some of his democratization proposals –mainly more press freedoms–and pledge to put teeth in them when he is elected.

But there is disagreement in the ruling camp whether such a statement will overcome the damage done to Roh's image by swelling rally crowds to hear oppositionists speak while his own rally turnouts have been indifferent at best and marred by violence at worse as was the case Sunday in Kwangju.

"The ruling party is running scared, no doubt about it," said a longtime Western resident of Seoul. His observation was verified by a Democratic Justice Party member who insisted on anonymity, saying conservative elements in his party had "spoiled the advantage" gained by the June 29 announcement giving in to opposition demands. "We've lost the momentum."

Adding to the "running scared" mood, a Western resident of Taegu told me there Saturday, "The ruling party is plenty worried here. It would be a real loss of face if they lost Taegu since Mr. Roh's village is near here."

Cho Yong Jik, spokesman for the New Democratic Republic Party, said the ruling party was fearful of its fate and "They're trying to beat on us because we're taking votes away from them."

As he spoke to reporters, his candidate Kim Jong Pil was telling about 2,000 rain-soaked supporters at an athletic field in Kimhae near Pusan that the government was "buying votes with alcohol and money" proving that it is worried about the outcome of an honest election.

Earlier in the campaign, the ruling DJP had seemed to exude confidence and the popular wisdom was that Roh was the front-runner. Analysts said the DJP membership of 3 million, the army, police, bureaucrats and vested business interests virtually assured Roh of as many as 6 or 7 million "built-in" votes, only a couple of million shy of the 10 million felt necessary to win in the race which has 26 million eligible voters.

But snowballing negative incidents, capped with last weekend's dramatic turn of events, have tended to revise those estimates. There have also been reports of a flurry of "big business" money to the coffers of Kim Dae Jung, indicating that those elements are hedging their bets as the backing of Roh seems to be slipping.

Although opinion polls are banned by the government, most gauges–including the near-infallible Seoul coffee shop circuit–call the race dead even at this point among Roh and the two Kims, with the Kims rising in the last week and Roh slipping to reach that point.

"The contest is in Seoul and its suburbs," said one longtime political observer. "The only swing votes are here in the capital. We can only hope one of the candidates wins by a million votes and fairly so there's no reason to call foul."

EDITORIAL

Military Endangers S. Korean Election

As the Dec. 16 presidential election of south Korea draws nearer, ominous moves are clouding people's hopes for democracy. That's the military.

The south Korean military regime is obviously struggling hard to gain support for its candidate Roh Tae Woo. Though the leaders of the south Korean military are talking about the "neutrality" of the military in the coming elections, any "manoeuvres" by the military are possible if an opposition candidate wins the race.

The Far Eastern Economic Review in its Nov. 19 issue published an article of an ex-army general, titled "The military's role in South Korean politics."

Hur Hwa Pyong, author of the article, said, "The military elites cannot stand down from their responsibilities and leave an uncertain political future entirely in civilian hands...

"In the long-range goal of developing the South as a pluralistic political society based on a free-market economy, the military elites cannot stand outside the framework of political development but must form an integral part of it."

Hur is a retired army brigadier-general who played a key role in Chun Doo Hwan's ascendency to power in 1979-80.

His remarks may well be representing the opinion of the military as a whole.

In the meantime, an English-language Japanese daily The Daily Yomiuri reported on Dec. 4 that the DJP and government sources said that the ruling camp, "scared" at the prospect of Roh's defeat, felt it needed a "blockbuster" announcement or event to turn the tide back toward Roh.

The coming election will be a great turning point in the south Korean society which has been under the 26 years of military rule. Ending the military dominion fully depends on the result of the elections.

But those covert and overt threats by the military and the ruling circles are casting a dark shadow over the prospects of fair elections.

There are many people who fear that the ruling circles may resort to unfair elections as it did in 1960 under the Syngman Rhee regime and in 1971 under the Park Chung Hee regime.

They were the examples of elections under the military regime.

As long as the military is deeply involved in politics, no fair elections can be held, nor can a people's government be set up easily.

Moreover, there still exists a strong possibility of military interference in case of opposition's victory in the race.

The south Korean military should stay out of politics and the ruling circles should be fairly judged by the south Korean people.

They should not forget the fate of their predecessors who won their unfair elections and attempted the extension of their dictatorships – Syngman Rhee, Park Chung Hee and Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines.

(Continued from page 1)

interference and peacefully on a democratic principle, delegates of Korean social scientists touched upon the sincere efforts of the Workers' Party and people of Korea for it.

They pointed out that the U.S. has already deployed in south Korea more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons of various kinds and annually staged such military exercises as Team Spirit to extremely aggravate the situation on the peninsula.

They said that to prevent the danger of war in Korea is a precondition for peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region.

Saying the U.S.-Japan-south Korea three-way military alliance constitutes the basic core of the U.S. Asian-Pacific strategy, they stressed the need to check and frustrate the moves to form this aggressive alliance.

They also expressed support for the peaceful initiatives of Moscow to defend peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region.

Head of the Soviet delegation Sergei Tikhvinski said Moscow always stands on the side of the Korean people for national reunification and peace.

Dr. Vladimir Tikhomirov and other Soviet social scientists who took the floor said General Secretary Mikhail S. Gorbachev in July last year supported the DPRK's proposal for the establishment of a nuclear-free, peace zone on the Korean Peninsula and advanced a proposal to make efforts to prevent arms buildup, nuclear arms buildup in particular, and ensure security in the Asia-Pacific region.

They emphasized the need to fully support the Korean people in their struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

(Continued from page 1)

Haidar Abu Baker Al-Attas, Chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the independence of the republic;

Erskine Sandiford, Prime Minister of Barbados, on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the independence of the country;

Andre Kolingba, President, Head of State and government of the Central African Republic and Founder-Chairman of the Democratic Rally of Central Africa, on the 29th anniversary of the proclamation of the Central African Republic;

Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga, Founder-President of the Popular Revolutionary Movement and President of the Republic of Zaire, on the occasion of the 22nd anniversary of the national day of the republic;

Maaouya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, President of the Military Committee of National Salvation and Head of State of Mauritania, on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the national independence of the Mauritanian people;

Amin Gemayel, President of the Republic of Lebanon, on the occasion of the 44th anniversary of the independence of Lebanon;

Najib, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, upon his election as President of the Republic of Afghanistan; and

The Lao party and state leaders on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

(Continued from page 1)

Noting that south Korea's presidential election campaign was going on against Roh Tae Woo, the statement said, "The military dictators who, in their last fateful days, saw their military administration coming to an end, felt the need to create some conditions under which they might turn the situation in their favor by causing a shocking incident and extricate themselves from the crisis."

"People have every reason to think that the puppets might invent a new dramatic, shocking incident with the aim of delivering themselves from the blind alley in which they find themselves today," said the statement.

An English-language newspaper published in Japan reported that the DJP think-tank felt a "blockbuster" announcement or event was needed to tip the scales back in favour of Roh.

Observers point out that as Roh is the only one to benefit from an incident of this kind, the involvement of his group cannot be ruled out.

"We are brothers and sisters always siding with the south Korean people.

"How can it be imagined that we do damage to the south Korean workers who were on board the passanger plane," the statement said.

Chongryun Vice Chairman Issues Statement

Pak Chae Ro, a vice chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, published a statement on Dec. 2 in connection with the incident.

He said that Chongryun has no idea of or nothing to do with the man and woman with Japanese passports who were on board the Korean Air Flight 858 from Bagdad to Abu Dhabi.

Denying Chongryun's involvement in the incident, he demanded that the Japanese authorities refrain from taking part in the south Korean conspiracy and that the Japanese media give unbiased reports.

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